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Authority NAL 822940

By KAM/MD/MARA, Date 6-24-88

Date 1-22-88

Name F. J. X.

UNLESS PROMPT AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED UPON A STRONG TRIPARTITE  
REPLY TO KHRUSHCHEV'S SPEECH ON BERLIN QUESTION I SUGGEST  
AN EARLY REPLY IN FORM OF SPEECH BY PRESIDENT OR SECRETARY.  
I SUGGEST WE SHOULD PUT SOVIETS ON DEFENSIVE BY POINTING OUT  
THAT WHILE THEY HAVE BEEN GIVING LIP SERVICE TO REDUCTION OF  
TENSION AND MAINTENANCE OF STATUS QUO, THEY HAVE IN FACT TAKEN  
A SERIES OF STEPS DESIGNED TO INCREASE TENSION AND DISTURB  
EQUILIBRIUM IN MANY AREAS THROUGHOUT WORLD INCLUDING THIS  
RECENT THREAT AGAINST WESTERN BERLIN. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAKE  
UNMISTAKABLY CLEAR THAT WE WILL DEFEND OUR RIGHTS IN BERLIN,  
INCLUDING ACCESS THERETO, BY WHATEVER MEANS ARE NECESSARY.  
I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO INDICATE THAT THIS WOULD INCLUDE  
LAND COMMUNICATION AND NOT REPETITION OF AIRLIFT. AT SAME  
TIME SUGGEST WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE OUR READINESS TO DISCUSS  
THIS OR OTHER PROBLEMS WITH SOVIETS. I ALSO SUGGEST THAT  
TOGETHER WITH OUR ALLIES WE SHOULD CARRY OUT A SUSTAINED  
AND VIGOROUS PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST EAST GERMAN REGIME,  
SHOWING ITS LACK OF POPULAR SUPPORT AND ITS MAINTENANCE BY  
SOVIET MILITARY FORCE. IN ANY SERIOUS PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS  
WITH SOVIETS HOWEVER I BELIEVE THAT WE OR WEST GERMANS  
SHOULD MAKE CLEAR OUR RECOGNITION OF PROBLEM WHICH SOVIETS  
HAVE CREATED FOR THEMSELVES BY SETTING UP A COMMUNIST REGIME  
IN EAST GERMANY AND OUR WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THIS INTO ACCOUNT  
IN ANY SETTLEMENT OF GERMAN PROBLEM. I HAVE IN MIND BY THIS

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- 2 - 1058, NOVEMBER 12, 2 PM FROM MOSCOW

THE PROBABLE NECESSITY OF A TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENT IN ANY GERMAN SETTLEMENT IN ORDER TO ALLOW SOVIETS TO DISENGAGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY IN GERMANY WITHOUT JEOPARDIZING COMMUNIST REGIMES IN REST OF EASTERN EUROPE. AS IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT RECENT MOVE WAS AT LEAST IN PART STIMULATED BY POLES WHO ARE CONCERNED AT FUTURE GERMAN THREAT, IT WOULD BE USEFUL IF WEST GERMANS COULD AT LEAST REITERATE THEIR COMMITMENT NOT TO USE FORCE IN SETTLING PROBLEMS WITH THEIR NEIGHBORS.

THOMPSON

JYH/20

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